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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

3665

COUNTRY China

DATE:

SUBJECT Political Information: Repatriation of Japanese
in Canton Wanted by French

INFO. As stated

DIST. 20 January 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN
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1. Among the 1100 Japanese who were in Canton awaiting repatriation, as previously reported in October, were 158 Japanese gendarmes whom the French wanted in Indo-China for war crime trials. The Chinese Military Headquarters in Canton at first led the French to believe that the Japanese had been repatriated, although there had been instructions from Nanking to retain them for the French.
2. When it was discovered that the Japanese were only forty miles down the river from Canton waiting for transportation to Japan, arrangements were again made to retain them.
3. Because the French did not promptly provide transportation to Saigon and failed to produce formal charges against the Japanese, the Chinese started shipping the 158 gendarmes to Japan on Chinese merchant vessels, apparently with the approval of Nanking. By 10 December one-half of the total number had been shipped and the rest were scheduled to leave soon after that date.
4. As a result of this incident relations between the Chinese Headquarters and the French Consul in Canton are strained.

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NO CHANGE in Class

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